

09/380377

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

**BULLEID**

Atty. Ref.: 39-189

Serial No. **Unknown**

Group:

Filed: **September 1, 1999**

Examiner:

For: **PROCOLLAGEN ASSEMBLY**

\* \* \* \* \*

**September 1, 1999**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Prior to calculation of the filing fee and in order to place the above identified application in better condition for examination, please amend the claims as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Claim 11, line 1, delete "any one of claims 2-10" and insert -- claim 2 --.

Claim 12, line 1, delete "any one of claims 2-10" and insert -- claim 2 --.

Claim 13, line 1, delete "or 12".

Claim 14, line 1, delete "any one of claims 11 to 13" and insert -- claim 2 --.

Claim 17, line 1, delete "any preceding claim" and insert -- claim 1 --.

Claim 19, line 1, delete "any preceding" and insert -- claim 1 --.

Claim 23, line 1, delete "any one of claims 1 to 19" and insert -- claim 1 --.

Add the following new claim:

-- 28. The method according to claim 12 wherein the gene encodes for a pro- $\alpha$  chain or derivative thereof comprising a C-terminal propeptide domain from one type of pro- $\alpha$  chain and an  $\alpha$  chain from another type of pro- $\alpha$  chain. --.

**BULLEID**

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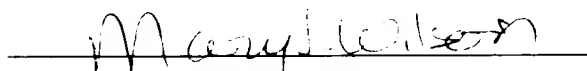
**REMARKS**

The above amendments are made to place the claims in a more traditional format.

Respectfully submitted,

**NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.**

By:



**Mary J. Wilson**

Reg. No. **32,955**

**MJW:Imy**

1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor

Arlington, VA 22201-4714

Telephone: (703) 816-4000

Facsimile: (703) 816-4100